

## MARYLAND GAZETTE

T H U R S D A Y, JULY 7, 1803.

WHITESTOWN, *New Hartford*

Settlement, June 16.

**A** REMARKABLE phenomenon took place in this village a few days since.

A feather bed, lying in the garret of the house of Messrs. T. and E. Williams, spontaneously took fire, and considerable part of it was consumed before it was discovered. This very singular operation of nature, will appear more credible, though not less remarkable if we take into view the following circumstances. Some time in the month of March last a child of Mr. Williams had the misfortune to be badly burnt. During the progress of recovery, two or three gallons of oil were made use of, and a considerable part of it was absorbed by the bed. In the course of the day the family were sensible of an unusual scent, which seemed like that of burning oil. This excited their apprehensions, and in searching for the cause of the uncommon smell, one of the family entered the garret, and found part of the above-mentioned bed in a state of ignition; and as soon as it was exposed to a free circulation of air, it burst into a flame.—The family are confident that the fire was not communicated by any of the usual means, as there had been no fire carried into the garret for a considerable time.

The principal component parts of the bed and oil, were hydrogen, carbon and caloric, which in the bed before the application of the oil, were in a state of equilibrium—but by the addition and process of the oil, the combustible substances, hydrogen and caloric, were super-saturated with caloric an addition to which, was received, from the rays of the sun through the roof, (which was contiguous,) further removing the equilibrium and causing decomposition of the combustible body, which decomposition is combustion.

BALTIMORE, June 30.

Letters of a late date were yesterday morning received in town from Spain which mention that at the moment when it was expected that hostilities would commence between Britain and France, Lord Malmesbury was ordered to Paris to take the place of Lord Whitworth. It is therefore presumed that the negotiation has assumed some new forms.

We have not been able to fee these letters and therefore cannot be particular as to dates and circumstances—but what we have mentioned may be relied upon as substantially correct.

[Gazette of the United States.]

July 1.

We are much indebted to the politeness of a respectable mercantile friend for the following extract. The letter was put into the Beverly post-office on the 21st, and reached this city yesterday—and shews the origin of the article we yesterday gave from the United States Gazette. It is written by a gentleman at Bilbao of the very first respectability and possessing the best information both commercial and political. No doubt can therefore exist of the contents of his letter being, at the time and place it was written, the topic of the most respectable circles. In what degree it was then worthy of credit, they must by this time very well know.—But we are still left to conjecture, and the only data on which we can determine the point, even hypothetically, is, that on the 6th May, Mr. Addington said not a syllable concerning the mission of Lord Malmesbury to Paris, although he informed parliament that Lord Whitworth had taken his passport and would be in London in a few days. The London editors are also silent upon the embassy of Lord M. If it has really taken place, it is a complete march stolen both upon them and the nation, by Mr. A. for which he may be made to repent.

[Fed. Gaz.]

BILBOA, May 13, 1803.

“Lord Malmesbury got to Paris the 6th inst. with dispatches from King George, a few hours after the arrival of Buonaparte's aid-de-camp, who brought to the first consul, the answer to what was said to be his ultimatum.

“Lord Malmesbury's embassy gives room to prod and conjectures. Certain it is, the French have motives for mistaking such an ambassador when the recollection of the many months his lordship entertained them with consultations to England, is so fresh.—Therefore the decision of peace or war will be soon.

“The French, it is said, wish for the entire fulfillment of the treaty of Amiens, and that in consequence Egypt and Malta should be evacuated by the English—the former to be delivered to the Turks, and the latter to the order of St. John of Jerusalem, and the indemnifications to take place as per the treaty. The English, it is said, wish for a treaty of commerce, but the French will not agree to any such thing, and it is my opinion it is very wise on their part so to oppose it, at the same time it is of the utmost consideration to the English manufacturers

to make such a treaty and of consequence to the nation in general.

“Some say that at all events we Spaniards will remain neutral. Indeed this must be our ardent desire, but unluckily we have not force or influence enough to keep such a neutrality. England is aware of this, and will prefer having an open and declared enemy to a hidden one. This is my opinion.”

BOSTON, 8 o'clock, P. M.

Sunday, June 25.

“A vessel has just arrived from Havre-de-Grace, with the news of war being declared; that Lord Whitworth had left Paris, and an embargo laid on all French vessels in port; that there was not an English vessel at Havre. They embargoed the French vessels for fear of the English cruisers. The letters and papers are not yet come to hand.”

[Reports on the above momentous subject have been so extremely contradictory, that we have forbore mentioning either the writer or receiver of the above letter. It may be proper therefore to state, that it comes from the most creditable quarter, perfectly free from speculative motives.

Another letter to a gentleman in this city states, that the above vessel left Havre on the 15th May.

The Boston Gazette, dated Monday the 27th of June, says not a syllable respecting the above; but it has been clearly ascertained that the paper was printed on Sunday the 26th, and sent to its distant subscribers and correspondents anti-dated, by the mail which left Boston the same night at nine o'clock, one hour after the above letter was written. Although therefore there are no circumstances stated in the letter to render the news officially authentic, yet there is also nothing to render it unworthy of credit.]

Since writing the above, we have been favoured with the following letter, dated

New-York, June 29.

“I have just time before the closing of the mail to give you the account just received from Boston, viz. that a vessel had just arrived there from Havre-de-Grace, bringing news to the 15th May, at which time the English ambassador had left Paris and the French ambassador had left London, and an embargo was laid on the English shipping in the French ports, and immediate hostilities fully expected—what credit it will here gain is yet uncertain.”

Extract of a letter from a gentleman in Baltimore, to his correspondent in this city.

“I have no doubt of a war from what I can learn from captain Pitt, who arrived here yesterday from Bourdeaux, which place he left the 17th ult. and reports the general opinion there to be, that war must be declared by Britain in less than two days after his departure. He states that all the English shipping had in the most precipitate manner, left Bourdeaux, and all the French ships were ordered to remain in port. There is no doubt in my mind of the authenticity of this news.” [Poulson.]

Extract of a letter, dated Bourdeaux, May 6, 1803.

“Political matters look excessively black, and appear now to have come to a crisis; last evening several couriers arrived from Paris, assuring that every idea of a reconciliation is now at an end, that the negotiations were positively broken off, so that all inter-views between the English minister and French court had ceased. As far as those rumours prove correct, we may look for a declaration of war, which many believe to have already taken place. There is a probability or rather a possibility, that these reports are merely speculative, and that an adjustment may be brought about; in my own opinion, things have gone too far to have any just expectation of accommodation.”

The editor copied the above from the original.

[Aurora.]

From the Charleston Times, of the 21st June.

The ship John and Frances, capt. Bass, arrived this morning from Bourdeaux, left that city on the 5th, and the Cordovan on the 8th of May. We have received by this arrival, our regular files of the Argus, an English newspaper printed in Paris, to the 1st of May; from which we have selected the most prominent articles on the important subject which agitates the public mind.—These certainly have a specific aspect; but the following extract of a letter from a merchant of respectability in Bourdeaux, to his correspondent in this city, leaves us nothing to expect but a speedy commencement of hostilities.

Bourdeaux, 5th May, 9 o'clock, P. M.

This day three couriers dispatched from Paris, to commercial houses in this city, have arrived with the news that the British ambassador had left Paris, on the 3d inst. sans prendre range, and that war was certain between the two nations. In consequence,

large purchases of both sugar and coffee have been made; yet as no express has been received by the different public offices, and we know that Mons. Le Brun, son to the third consul, was dispatched 24 hours after the departure of Mons. Lauriston, bearer of the French ultimatum, with new propositions to the British cabinet, there remains some glimmering hopes of peace. It is also mentioned, that the French ambassador at London has received positive orders not to quit until the British order him to leave the country.

12 o'clock at night.

Nothing more interesting known as yet—expresses are expected from Paris, with the news that hostilities have commenced.

Postscript of a letter from Bourdeaux, dated, 1st May.

“Since writing the above, intelligence has been received in town, stating that the negotiations of Mr. Monroe go on in fine train. It is now certain that France cedes Louisiana to the United States, on condition that she settle the claims of her citizens against this country, and pay in addition three millions of dollars to this government. The channel through which I had this information can be depended on; and I believe it is not generally known.”

July 2.

Philadelphia Gazette Office, July 1,

20 minutes before 7 o'clock, A. M.

We have just received the following important communication from our correspondent at New-York, by express. We hasten to throw it before our readers.

NEW-YORK, June 30,

Half past 4 o'clock, P. M.

Mr. Relf,

The John Morgan, Howard, is just arrived in 39 days from London. WAR WAS DECLARED on the part of Great-Britain on the 16th of May; no declaration had been made against Spain or Holland. It was understood that England had given notice to those powers that she would respect their neutrality, if they were willing and able to defend it.

Mr. King is on board—he informs that our embassy to France had been successful. Louisiana, with all the country west of it, is ceded to the United States.

Yours, &amp;c.

JOHN LANG, &amp; Co.

The following formal and official declaration of war of England against France was received by a merchant of this city, about 3 o'clock this morning; and about 8 o'clock it was laid on the coffee-house desk. Our hand-bills were all circulated before that hour, and we deemed it unnecessary to issue a second extra after our readers had been in possession of the first.

At the court of the Queen's-Palace, the 16th of May, 1803.

PRESENT,

The KING's most excellent majesty in council.

WHEREAS, in consequence of the repeated insults and provocations which his majesty has experienced from the government of France, his majesty finds himself compelled to take such measures as are necessary for vindicating the honour of his crown, and the just rights of his subjects; his majesty, therefore, is pleased, by and with the advice of his privy council, to order, and it is hereby ordered, that general reprisals be granted against the ships, goods, and subjects of the French republic, so that as well his majesty's fleets and ships, as also all other ships and vessels that shall be commissioned, by letters of marque, or general reprisals, or otherwise, by his majesty's commissioners for executing the office of lord high admiral of Great-Britain, shall and may lawfully seize all ships, vessels and goods, belonging to the French republic, or inhabiting within any of the territories of the French republic, and bring the same to judgment in such courts of admiralty within his majesty's dominions, as shall be duly commissioned to take cognizance thereof.

And, to that end, his majesty's advocate-general, with the advocate of the admiralty, is forthwith to prepare the draught of a commission, and present the same to his majesty at this board, authorising the commissioners for executing the office of lord high admiral, or any persons by them empowered and appointed, to issue forth and grant letters of marque and reprisals to any of H. M. subjects, or others whose the commissioners shall deem fully qualified in that behalf, for the apprehending, seizing, and taking the ships, vessels and goods, belonging to the French republic, or to any persons being subjects to the French republic, or inhabiting within any of the territories of the French republic; and that such powers and clauses be inserted in the said commission, as have been usual, and are according to former precedents.